



# WASHOE COUNTY

"Dedicated To Excellence in Public Service"

www.co.washoe.nv.us

CM/ACM \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance \_\_\_\_\_  
DA \_\_\_\_\_  
Risk Mgt. \_\_\_\_\_  
HR \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 25, 2015

**DATE:** June 24, 2015

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** John Slaughter, County Manager  
Telephone: 775.328.3607 Email: [jslaughter@washoecounty.us](mailto:jslaughter@washoecounty.us)  
Charles Moore, Fire Chief, TMFPD  
Telephone: 775.326.6000 Email: [cmoore@tmfpd.us](mailto:cmoore@tmfpd.us)

**THROUGH:** Nancy Parent, Washoe County Clerk on behalf of Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

**SUBJECT:** Approve a request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 60 – Fire Code) to adopt a new Section 5601.1.6 within the International Fire Code Chapter 56: Explosives, of Washoe County Code Chapter 60, containing provisions that amend the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code, effective July 1, 2015; and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030 and 2.040. (All Commission Districts)

### SUMMARY

County management and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, through the County Clerk, request (pursuant to Washoe County Code 2.030) to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 60 – Fire Code) to adopt a new Section 5601.1.6 within the International Fire Code Chapter 56: Explosives, of Washoe County Code Chapter 60, and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for the addition to the ordinance, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030 and 2.040.

If the request is approved, the Commission would direct the County Clerk to ask the District Attorney to draft a proposed ordinance amending the code, and when the proposed ordinance is completed, the county clerk would commence proceedings (first reading) to consider adopting it.

Currently the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District enforces the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code and International Wildland Urban Interface Code, with adopted amendments in Washoe Code Chapter 60. In September 2013, the department adopted amendments to the 2012 International Fire and International Wildland Urban Interface Codes, but was asked not to include the provisions for the prohibition of the possession,

AGENDA ITEM #

13

manufacture, sale and use of exploding targets, including binary exploding targets. In January of 2015, the Board of Fire Commission requested we revisit the amendment to Chapter 56: Explosives and examine some language to increase the safety of the residents of the County. If adopted, this amendment will bring Washoe County closer to having consistent requirements for the possession, manufacture, sale and use of exploding targets, including binary exploding targets. All surrounding jurisdictions, which include the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection district, North Lyon County Fire Protection District and Carson City Fire, prohibit the possession, manufacture, sale and use of exploding targets, including binary exploding targets. The Bureau of Land Management has also proposed prohibition, year-round, of all exploding targets on all public lands.

If approved by the Board, the proposed amendments to the Washoe County Code will go into effect on October 1, 2015.

The purpose of these codes is to establish the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practice for providing a reasonable level of life-safety and property protection from fire, explosion, and/or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures and premises, the construction, alteration, movement, repair, maintenance and use of any building, structure or premises within the wildland urban interface areas, and to provide safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations in this jurisdiction.

**Strategic Objective supported by this item:** *Sustainable Economic, Natural, Organizational and Social Resources: High Quality of life.*

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

See attached letter dated August 11, 2015, from the John Slaughter, County Manager to Washoe County Clerk Nancy Parent.

### **BACKGROUND**

Under WCC 2.030, amendments to the Washoe County Code must be initiated by a request from the head of a department of the County to the County Clerk, Upon receiving the request, the County Clerk, under WCC 2.040, places the request on an agenda for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners, who would consider the request (and may hear testimony from the proposer or any other person regarding the proposed changes), and by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting, may approve the request with any changes the Board desires. If approved, the Board would then direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, and, under WCC 2.050, when the district attorney has completed the proposed ordinance the county clerk would put the proposed ordinance on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board in accordance with the adoption procedures set out in NRS 244.100.

As indicated in the attached letter, County management and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District have requested an amendment to the Washoe County Code to adopt a

new Section 5601.1.6 within Chapter 56: Explosives, of Washoe County Code Chapter 60, effective November 1, 2015.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board approve the Ordinance enacting a new Section 5601.1.6 within Chapter 56: Explosives, of Washoe County Code Chapter 60, containing provisions that amend the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code and providing for matters properly relating thereto.

And if approved, schedule a public hearing and first reading on September 8, 2015, and second reading for September 22, 2015, to provide for possible adoption of the Ordinance to become effective October 1, 2015.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve a request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe county Code (Chapter 60 – Fire Code) to adopt the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code, 2012 Edition of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code, and the 2012 Northern Nevada Fire Amendments and other matters relating to the provisions of Chapter 60, effective September 13, 2013; and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, pursuant to Washoe County Code section 2.030 and 2.040."



# WASHOE COUNTY

*"Dedicated To Excellence in Public Service"*

[www.co.washoe.nv.us](http://www.co.washoe.nv.us)

August 11, 2015

Nancy Parent  
Washoe County Clerk  
P.O. Box 11130  
Reno, Nevada 89520

Re: Request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 60 – Fire Code) to adopt a new Section 5601.1.6 within the International Fire Code Chapter 56: Explosives, of Washoe County Code Chapter 60, containing provisions that amend the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code, effective July 1, 2015; and direct the County Clerk to submit the request to the District Attorney for preparation of a proposed ordinance, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030 and 2.040. (All Commission Districts)

Dear Ms. Parent,

In accordance with WCC 2.030, I request that you initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code (Chapter 60 – Fire Code) to adopt a new Section 5601.1.6 within the International Fire Code Chapter 56: Explosives, of Washoe County Code Chapter 60, containing provisions that amend the 2012 Edition of the International Fire Code, effective October 1, 2015.

Attached is a proposed staff report requesting that the Board of County Commissioners approve the proposed changes and instruct you to direct the District Attorney to prepare a code amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Slaughter", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Slaughter  
Washoe County Manager